Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 228554 ORIGIN STR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ISO-00 STRE-00 TRSE-00 LAB-04 COME-00 EB-08 SIG-03 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 JUSE-00 /115 R

DRAFTED BY STR:MHATHAWAY:MM
APPROVED BY STR:RRIVERS
TREASURY:PEHRENHAFT
TREASURY:IWILLIAMSON
LABOR:FLAVALLEE(SUBS)
STATE:CJACOBINI(SUBS)
STATE:SBRATTAIN(SUBS)
COMMERCE:DSHARK(SUBS)
COMMERCE:RBOWIE(SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL OECD CAPITALS PRIORITY
ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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MTN DELEGATION GENEVA

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING, INSTRUCTIONS FOR CUSTOMS MATTERS SUBGROUP AND NTM PARENT GROUP MEETINGS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1. PARA 2 BELOW PROVIDES PRINCIPLES OF COMMERCIAL COUNTER-FEITING AGREEMENT FOR CIRCULATION AT 12 SEPT 78 CUSTOMS MATTERS SUBGROUP MEETING. THESE PRINCIPLES OUTLINE BASIC ELEMENTS OF AGREEMENT WHICH HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED TO PRIVATE SECTOR ADVISORS. A MORE DETAILED POSITION CAN BE PRESENTED IN CONNECTION WITH BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS DURING FOLLOWING WEEKS. TO THAT END MTN DEL SHOULD ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE SUCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD WITH KEY DELEGATIONS AS SOON AS FEASIBLE, POSSIBLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH VALUATION NEGOTIATIONS.

2. AN AGREEMENT DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN RULES AND PROCEDURES TO COUNTER CASES OF TRADE IN COUNTERFEIT TRADEMARKED GOODS SHOULD CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

A. THE AGREEMENT SHOULD REQUIRE THE SEIZURE AND, IN THE ABSENCE OF THE CONSENT OF TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER, THE FORFEITURE OF COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY OF IMPORTATION. IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES

OF THE AGREEMENT, SUCH FORFEITED MERCHANDISE SHOULD THEN BE DISPOSED OF IN A MANNER THAT WOULD PREVENT THE PRODUCER AND THE IMPORTER FROM DERIVING ANY BENEFIT FROM SUCH IMPORTATION.

SUCH DISPOSITION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY OF IMPORTATION COULD INCLUDE DELIVERY TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OR CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, OR BY SUBSEQUENT SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION. THE UNAUTHORIZED TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME SHOULD BE REMOVED WHERE FEASIBLE PRIOR TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISPOSITION OF THE COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE. FOR UNSAFE MERCHANDISE DESTRUCTION WOULD APPEAR TO BE THE ONLY REASONABLE METHOD OF DISPOSITION.

B. COUNTERFEIT TRADEMARKED MERCHANDISE SHOULD BE DEFINED TO INCLUDE ONLY THOSE GOODS TO WHICH A TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME, WHICH IS ENTITLED TO PROTECTION UNDER THE LAWS OF THE IMPORTING COUNTRY, HAS BEEN AFFIXED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER.

SUBSTANTIVE LAW CONCERNING WHICH TRADE-MARKS OR TRADENAMES ARE ENTITLED TO PROTECTION WOULD NOT BE ALTERED BY THE AGREEMENT, NOR WOULD THE AGREEMENT REQUIRE FORFEITURE FOR GENUINE ARTICLES WHICH WERE IMPORTED WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER.

C. THE AGREEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN PROCEDURAL

SAFEGUARDS WHICH WOULD PREVENT THE FORFEITURE SANCTION FROM BECOMING A NONTARIFF BARRIER TO LEGITIMATE TRADE.

AT A MINIMUM, SUCH PROCEDURES SHOULD PROVIDE FOR NOTICE TO THE IMPORTER THAT SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE IS CONTEMPLATED, AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A FAIR AND REASONED DETERMINATION OF THE QUESTION. SUCH PROCEDURES WOULD BE INVOKED BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS NORMALLY AFTER BEING ALERTED BY THE TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER, AND COULD TAKE THE FOLLOWING FORM:

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CUSTOMS WITHHOLDING DELIVERY OF COUNTER-FEIT MERCHANDISE AND NOTIFYING THE IMPORTER OF THAT ACTION TOGETHER WITH ADVISING HIM THAT HE MAY FILE A STATEMENT DENYING THAT THE ARTICLE IS IN FACT COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE. IF THE IMPORTER FILES THE APPROPRIATE DENIAL THEN THE TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER WOULD BE GIVEN NOTICE AND PROVIDED WITH AN OPPROTUNITY TO DEMAND THE EXCLUSION OF THE ARTICLES FROM ENTRY PROVIDED THAT HE SUPPLIES A BOND SUFFICIENT TO HOLD THE IMPORTER OR OWNER OF THE IMPORTED ARTICLES HARMLESS FROM ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM THE DETENTION OF THE IMPORTED GOODS. IF AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW SUSTAINS THE CLAIM THAT THE DETAINED ARTICLE IS COUNTERFEIT, THE ARTICLE WOULD THEN BE SEIZED AND FORFEITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES. SUCH ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW WOULD BE SUBJECT TO APPEAL TO BY AN INDEPENDENT BODY SUCH AS BY THE JUDICIARY.

D. THE AGREEMENT SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE A MECHANISM FOR CONSULTATION AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, POSSIBLY BY REFERENCE TO THE PROCEDURES OF THE GATT.

- 3. IF ASKED DEL SHOULD STATE THAT SUBSTANTIVE LAW CONCERNING APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN OR GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS OF SOURCE WILL NOT BE COVERED BY THE AGREEMENT.
- 4. DEL SHOULD DRAW FROM PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NTM PARENT GROUP TO DEAL WITH POSSIBLE INITIATIVES TO INCLUDE ANTIDUMPING IN MTN, AND SHOULD DRAW FROM PRINCIPLES OF AGREEMENT IN PARA 2 TO CAST COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING AS PURELY PROCEDURAL CUSTOMS MATTER, AND SHOULD FURTHER STATE THAT COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING HAS BEEN TAKEN UP IN CUSTOMS MATTERS SUBGROUP UNDER EXISTING PROCEDURES.

5. FYI PARA 2B ABOVE DEALS IN PART WITH QUOTE PARALLEL IMPORTATIONS END QUOTE. MORE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS WILL DEAL WITH, AMONG OTHER SPECIFIC ISSUES, SITUATIONS WHERE DIFFERENT TRADEMARK OWNERS EXIST IN COUNTRIES OF EXPORTATION AND IMPORTATION. END FYI. CHRISTOPHER

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PAGE 01 STATE 228554 ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /009 R

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 228554 ACTION ALL OED CAPITALS ALL EAST ASIA N AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS BRASILIA MEXICO CARACAS SETP 8

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 228554

MTN DELEGATION GENEVA

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING, INSTRUCTIONS FOR CUSTOMS MATTERS SUBGROUP AND NTM PARENT GROUP MEETINGS.

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IN CONNECTION WITH BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS DURING FOLLOWING WEEKS. TO THAT END MTN DEL SHOULD ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE SUCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD WITH KEY DELEGATIONS AS SOON AS FEASIBLE, POSSIBLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH VALUATION NEGOTIATIONS.

2. AN AGREEMENT DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN RULES AND PROCEDURES TO COUNTER CASES OF TRADE IN COUNTERFEIT TRADEMARKED GOODS SHOULD CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

A. THE AGREEMENT SHOULD REQUIRE THE SEIZURE AND, IN THE ABSENCE OF THE CONSENT OF TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER, THE FORFEITURE OF COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY OF IMPORTATION. IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES

OF THE AGREEMENT, SUCH FORFEITED MERCHANDISE SHOULD THEN BE DISPOSED OF IN A MANNER THAT WOULD PREVENT THE PRODUCER AND THE IMPORTER FROM DERIVING ANY BENEFIT FROM SUCH IMPORTATION.

SUCH DISPOSITION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY OF IMPORTATION COULD INCLUDE DELIVERY TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OR CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, OR BY SUBSEQUENT SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION. THE UNAUTHORIZED TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME SHOULD BE REMOVED WHERE FEASIBLE PRIOR TO THE DISPOSITION OF THE COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE. FOR UNSAFE MERCHANDISE DESTRUCTION WOULD APPEAR TO BE THE ONLY REASONABLE METHOD OF DISPOSITION.

B. COUNTERFEIT TRADEMARKED MERCHANDISE SHOULD

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BE DEFINED TO INCLUDE ONLY THOSE GOODS TO WHICH A TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME, WHICH IS ENTITLED TO PROTECTION UNDER THE LAWS OF THE IMPORTING COUNTRY, HAS BEEN AFFIXED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER.

SUBSTANTIVE LAW CONCERNING WHICH TRADE-MARKS OR TRADENAMES ARE ENTITLED TO PROTECTION WOULD NOT BE ALTERED BY THE AGREEMENT, NOR WOULD THE AGREEMENT REQUIRE FORFEITURE FOR GENUINE ARTICLES WHICH WERE IMPORTED WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER.

C. THE AGREEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS WHICH WOULD PREVENT THE FORFEITURE SANCTION FROM BECOMING A NONTARIFF BARRIER TO LEGITIMATE TRADE.

AT A MINIMUM, SUCH PROCEDURES SHOULD PROVIDE FOR NOTICE TO THE IMPORTER THAT SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE IS CONTEMPLATED, AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A FAIR AND REASONED DETERMINATION OF THE QUESTION. SUCH PROCEDURES WOULD BE INVOKED BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS NORMALLY AFTER BEING ALERTED BY THE TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER, AND COULD TAKE THE FOLLOWING FORM:

CUSTOMS WITHHOLDING DELIVERY OF COUNTER-FEIT MERCHANDISE AND NOTIFYING THE IMPORTER OF THAT ACTION TOGETHER WITH ADVISING HIM THAT HE MAY FILE A STATEMENT DENYING THAT THE ARTICLE IS IN FACT COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE. IF THE IMPORTER FILES THE APPROPRIATE DENIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEN THE TRADEMARK OR TRADENAME OWNER WOULD BE GIVEN NOTICE AND PROVIDED WITH AN OPPROTUNITY TO DEMAND THE EXCLUSION OF THE ARTICLES FROM ENTRY PROVIDED THAT HE SUPPLIES A BOND SUFFICIENT TO HOLD THE IMPORTER OR OWNER OF THE IMPORTED ARTICLES HARMLESS

FROM ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE RESULTING
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D. THE AGREEMENT SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE A MECHANISM FOR CONSULTATION AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, POSSIBLY BY REFERENCE TO THE PROCEDURES OF THE GATT.

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- 4. DEL SHOULD DRAW FROM PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS FOR NTM PARENT GROUP TO DEAL WITH POSSIBLE INITIATIVES TO INCLUDE ANTIDUMPING IN MTN, AND SHOULD DRAW FROM PRINCIPLES OF AGREEMENT IN PARA 2 TO CAST COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING AS PURELY PROCEDURAL CUSTOMS MATTER, AND SHOULD FURTHER STATE THAT COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING HAS BEEN TAKEN UP IN CUSTOMS MATTERS SUBLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROUP UNDER EXISTING PROCEDURES.

5. FYI PARA 2B ABOVE DEALS IN PART WITH QUOTE PARALLEL IMPORTATIONS END QUOTE. MORE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS WILL DEAL WITH, AMONG OTHER SPECIFIC ISSUES, SITUATIONS WHERE DIFFERENT TRADEMARK OWNERS EXIST IN COUNTRIES OF EXPORTATION AND IMPORTATION. END FYI. CHRISTOPHER. UNQUOTE CHRISTPHER

NOTE BY OC/T: ORIGINAL DIST: ARA,ISO,STR/STRE,TRSE,LAB,COME,EB, SIG,GATT,JUSE.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: COUNTERFEITING, CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, MEETINGS

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Stubject: COMMERCIAL COUNTERFEITING, INSTRUCTIONS FOR CUSTOMS MATTERS SUBGROUP AND NTM PARENT GROUP MEETINGS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

To: OECD POSTS EA POSTS MULTIPLE

Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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